

REPORT

TO: Administration Committee and Regional Council (RC)

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DATE: September 4, 2003

SUBJECT: Grant Proposal - Developing web/GIS based air pollution and noise contour models.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Staff Recommendation.

SUMMARY:

Staff requests authorization to submit grant proposals to appropriate parties to develop web/GIS based models for measuring air and noise pollution adjacent to freeways. Models will be utilized for planning activities including environmental justice analysis. The initial applications will be submitted to the National Science Foundation for \$1,000,000.

BACKGROUND:

In conjunction with the University of Southern California (USC) and the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), SCAG is planning to submit a proposal to develop web/GIS based Air Pollution and Noise Contour Models that will enable planners and policy makers to identify communities significantly impacted by high levels of air pollution and noise. These tools will assist planners in conducting a wide variety of analyses including environmental justice to facilitate investments and decision-making in these communities.

These models will provide SCAG a new methodology to identify environmentally impacted communities and a framework to assess environmental justice issues emerging at the corridor, community, city, and regional levels.

As a result, SCAG in collaboration with universities is planning to apply for a potential grant available through National Science Foundation and other potential grantors.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost associated with the project development will be fully cover by funds from potential grantors. There is no requirement for local match.



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